Text-books in the Primary, Middle and High School Classes.

READ—

Subject No. 101 of the Proceedings of the Representative Assembly at the Dasara Session of 1924 suggesting that with a view to avoid inconvenience to students, books prescribed for the lower classes should not be changed year after year or oftener than once in five years and the reply of Government thereto.

2. Subject No. 138 of the Proceedings of the Representative Assembly at the Dasara Session of 1925, stating that the text-books prescribed for the Primary classes are at present changed annually and that it causes some hardship to students who cannot afford to buy the books and suggesting that orders may be passed so that text-books prescribed may be changed only once in five years.

3. Correspondence ending with letter No. D2. Dis. 7056—25-26, dated 7th June 1926, from the Inspector-General of Education, stating that on a detailed examination of the list of the prescribed text-books, it is found that text-books once prescribed are not changed in the Primary and Middle School classes for a period of at least three years, except in the case of language subjects for the 4th year Middle School class, that text-books in language subjects are changed every year in the case of the Lower Secondary and all the High School classes, that in future, the same text-books are proposed to be prescribed in language subjects also for the IV and V Forms of High Schools for a period of three years, such text-books for the VI Form and Lower Secondary class being, as at present changed every year, and that on account of the revised curricula of studies and rules for the S. S. L. C. Examination there have been some changes recently in non-language subjects in the High School classes, though the rule is that text-books on these subjects are to remain unchanged for at least a period of three years and adding that the dissatisfaction which seems to exist in respect of alleged frequent change of text-books in Primary and Middle Schools is due to some misapprehension.

ORDER No. E. 395-98—EDN. 131-24-108, DATED 24TH JULY 1926.

Recorded.

P. G. D'SOUZA,
Chief Secretary to Government.

Secretariat Functions of the Public Works Department.

READ AGAIN—

Government Order No. 2534-85—C. B. 157-23-1, dated the 4th February 1924, sanctioning certain administrative changes in the Public Works and Electrical Departments.

2. Note by the Chief Engineer on the subject of the Secretariat duties in connection with the Department of Public Works.

ORDER No. 358-409—C. B. 19-26-1, DATED 28TH JULY 1926.

In the Government Order read above, Government sanctioned the combination of the Irrigation Branch and the Roads and Buildings Branch of the Public Works Department, which till then were under separate officers, into one charge and placed the whole work under one Chief Engineer. This Officer was given purely administrative work and the Secretariat functions of the Public Works Department together with those of the Electrical Department were assigned to a separate officer, *viz.*, Mr. K. R. Seshachar, who is in addition Special Officer, Krishnarajasagara Works. Owing, however, to the necessity for starting the construction of the High Level Channel and on account of other developments on a large scale in connection with the Krishnarajasagara Works, it is found necessary to have a full-time Chief Engineer for the Krishnarajasagara Works. As Mr. K. R. Seshachar will, therefore, be unable hereafter to attend to Secretariat work of the Public Works Department, the Chief Engineer was requested to submit proposals for a re allocation of the administrative and Secretariat work of the Department. That Officer has proposed the revival of the two circles of Superintending Engineers which were abolished in 1922, one Officer at least being appointed for the present and placed in charge of the four districts of Hassan, Kadur, Shimoga and Chitaldrug, so as to relieve the Chief Engineer of part of his inspection work and enable him to take up the duties of the Secretary to Government in the Public Works Department. It has also been proposed in this connection that the Tank Survey Division may be abolished and the work transferred to the regular Public Work Divisions. Establishment as in the appended

list has been proposed for the two administrative offices, *viz.*, that of the Chief Engineer and the Superintending Engineer.

Government approve of the proposal to revive one Superintendence Circle in the Public Works Department in order that the Secretariat functions of the department may be transferred to the Chief Engineer. The Superintending Engineer will be in charge of the four districts mentioned above with headquarters at Shimoga and the Chief Engineer in direct charge of the other four districts and the Special Divisions as heretofore. He will also be Secretary to Government in the Department. The establishment proposed for the offices is sanctioned. Mr. K. R. Seshachar, Special Officer, Krishnarajasagara Works, will continue as Secretary to Government for the Works and in the Electrical Department. These arrangements will come into effect from 1st August 1926.

The Tank Survey division will be abolished as proposed. Orders have already separately issued abolishing the special new establishment till now employed in the Departments of Education and Military to carry out the building and other works of those departments. The work carried out by the establishments will hereafter be attended to by the Public Works Department. The extra cost of the new circle of Superintendence of the Engineering Department which is estimated at Rs. 18,090 will thus be reduced, the net financial result of the arrangements now sanctioned being as in the statement in the margin. Necessary action according to these orders may be taken immediately.

Extra cost of revised Establishment	..	Rs. 18,090
Savings by abolition—		
(1) of establishments in Education and Military Departments	Rs.	11,572
(ii) of Tank Survey Division (in 1926-27) approximately	„	2,500
Net extra expenditure in 1926-27	..	Rs. 4,018
In future years	..	„ 6,518

The Chief Engineer is requested to point out a source for meeting the net extra cost of Rs. 4,018 during the current year and to investigate what further reductions of establishment can be effected in his office, and whether the existing arrangements for attending to architectural work can be modified so as to reduce expenditure and submit proposals early for orders of Government.

As, according to the revised arrangements sanctioned in this order, transfer of grant from one major head to another during the current year is involved, a supplementary schedule of demand should be placed before the Legislative Council for voting at the next session an extra grant to the Civil Works Budget.

P. G. D'SOUZA,
Chief Secretary to Government.